which the prisoners were convicted. The present classification takes this element as well as social standing and mode of life into consideration.''

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" ഇതു ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് പാരമ്പര്യം തുടരുകയല്ലേ, സാർ ? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" This is only to see that justice is done to the prisoner as well as to society."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Will the Hon. Minister explain a little more the expression social standing and mode of life."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is a very difficult thing to answer such a question. I can give an illustration only. Suppose a Member of Parliament or a Member of the Legislature commits an offence. His standing is different from that of a habitual offender."

Grant of a portion of land revenue to panchayat boards.

* 388-F *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state what portion of the land revenue was given to the panchayat boards in the State prior to the passing of the Village Panchayat Act?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—'' No portion of land revenue was given to panchayats prior to the passing of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950.''

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" പുതിയ പഞ്ചായത്തു ബോർഡുകളിൽ നിന്ന് ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിന് എന്തെങ്കിലും റിപ്രസന്റേഷൻ കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ ? "

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—'' Yes, Sir. So many representations have been made by panchayats for getting 12½ per cent of the land revenue collections from the Government.''

Scale of pay of Hindustani teachers.

* 388-G *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Hindustani teachers, who have successfully undergone '' Pandits Training '' in any approved institution, are exempted from holding Pracharak Diploma; and

(*b*) whether such instructors are eligible for I grade scale of pay?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' (*a*) Yes, Sir.

'' (*b*) Such Instructors, if they have the necessary language and general educational qualifications are eligible for the Grade I scale of pay provided that they have work for not less than 17 hours in the higher forms of High schools."

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—' Are the Government aware that teachers who have passed the Pandit's Training Examination of the Madras University are not placed in Grade I in spite of a request to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, in that regard? Will the Government be pleased to inquire into the matter and see that justice is done according to the Government Order? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If the hon. Member is referring to a specific case, he may kindly write to me about it."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, if local boards come forward to place those who are qualified having undergone the Pandit's training, under Grade I, as long as their finances permit, will the Government be pleased to accord them sanction? For instance, the Corporation of Madras was approaching the Government of Madras for such sanction. Will the Government take a generous view of the matter and accord sanction? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is no question of generosity involved here. We have framed certain rules. If they come within the scope of the rules, certainly they will be permitted. If they do not fall within the scope of the rules, simply because a local body makes a recommendation, it would not be possible to accept it."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" I will make my question clearer, Sir. The Government have been refusing sanction on the pretext that if they accord sanction to the Corporation of Madras, whose finances are a bit in a better condition, the other local bodies like district boards and municipalities will also clamour for it though their financial position would not give room for such a contingency. The Corporation of Madras comes within the scope of the rules framed by the Government. But still, in order to have a uniform policy, the Government refused sanction to the Corporation of Madras. Will, at least in this particular instance, the Government be generous? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" In spite of the long speech, the question has not been made quite clear. He may discuss it personally with me and I am prepared to go into that question."

Release of Communist prisoners.

* 388-H *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received a mass petition signed by 11,700 persons of the Chirakkal taluk in the last week of November 1953, praying for the release of the Communist prisoners in the Central Jail, Cannanore, and if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(*b*) whether these prisoners are ill?